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PP RUEHFK RUEHKSO RUEHNAG RUEHNH
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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9198
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 8672
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 1013
RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 5725
RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 9168
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 2488
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 2949
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 3168
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 9630
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 9004
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 000224

SIPDIS

STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - U.S.-CHINA TIES

¶1. LEAD STORIES: Most papers on Thursday morning led with reports speculating that prosecutors decided on Wednesday not to indict DPJ Secretary General Ozawa in connection with a questionable land purchase made by his fund management organization in 2004.

¶2. "Obama-Dalai Lama Meeting to Become Another Source of Friction" The moderate Yomiuri wrote from Washington (2/4): "Concerning the plan for the Dalai Lama to visit the U.S. and meet with President Obama, White House Deputy Press Secretary Burton said to reporters on February 2 that there is no change in the plan to hold the meeting. China will inevitably protest vehemently if the meeting actually takes place, and it will be difficult to prevent the issue from becoming another source of friction in U.S.-China relations following Google's possible withdrawal from China and the U.S.'s decision on arms sales to Taiwan.... The repeated warnings by the Chinese government appear to be intended to take advantage of the need for the Obama administration to ask for China's cooperation in such issues as climate change and nuclear development by Iran and North Korea. However, the President appears to be determined to reject pressure from China by demonstrating a stance of not compromising on the issues of human rights and Taiwan."

¶3. "Another Source of Friction between U.S. and China" The conservative Sankei reported from Washington (2/4): "Another source of friction has been added to the deteriorating U.S.-China relationship. The U.S. has stated that there is no change in the plan for President Obama to meet with the Dalai Lama, who plans to visit the U.S. this month. In order to prevent the meeting from happening, China has been issuing strong

warnings to the U.S. If the meeting takes place, the friction between the U.S. and China that has built up due to such issues as Google's possible pullout from China and the U.S.'s announcement on arms sales to Taiwan will likely escalate.... The U.S. believes that dialogue with the Dalai Lama is necessary from the standpoint of human rights and freedom of religion. Criticism might emerge within the U.S. if the President gives in to the warnings from China and cancels the meeting."

ROOS